

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PM-04 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 EB-07 L-03 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 978

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 1189

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, UY

SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM AND AMMUNITION
EXPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. SUMMARY. URUGUAY CURRENTLY NEITHER EXPORTS, NOR HAS FACILITIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION. IF EXPORTS WERE MADE, HOWEVER, THE MINDEFENSE WOULD HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AUTHORIZING THEM AND FOR MAINTAINING ALL RECORDS. THE MINDEFENSE WOULD COORDINATE EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS WITH THE MONTEVIDEO POLICE AND INTERNALLY WITH THE MATERIEL AND ARMAMENTS SERVICE OF THE URUGUAYAN ARMED FORCES. HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO GUIDELINES AS TO WHOM IT WOULD OR WOULD NOT SELL TO AND NO THIRD COUNTRY DIVERSION REGULATIONS, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE REGULATIONS PROHIBITING RE-EXPORT OF FIREARMS PROCURED UNDER THE U.S. MAP PROGRAM. (NOTE: THE GOU WOULD NOT BE LIKELY TO SELL FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OR WHERE THEY MIGHT FALL INTO TERRORIST HANDS.)

2. URUGUAY DOES NOT EXPORT ARMS OR AMMUNITION. HOWEVER, IF IT WERE TO DO SO, THE PROCEDURE WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS. IN ADDITION TO THE AGENCIES MENTIONED ABOVE, THE CONCERN
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WISHING TO EXPORT FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION, THE CUSTOMS

SERVICE, AND THE AGENT OF THE SHIP TO CARRY THE GOODS WOULD BE INVOLVED IN REQUESTS TO EXPORT. THE CONCERN WOULD SUBMIT THE REQUEST TO THE MINDEFENSE. A REQUEST MUST INCLUDE THE TYPE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION WITH CALIBER AND CLASSIFICATION, THE BRANDS, THE SERIAL NUMBERS WHERE APPLICABLE, THE NUMBER OF BOXES AND WEIGHT, THE PORT OF EMBARKATION, THE CARRIER SHIP AND REGISTRATION, THE SAILING DATE, AND DESTINATION.

3. IF THE MINDEFENSE REVIEWED A REQUEST FAVORABLY, IT WOULD PASS THE DOCUMENTS TO THE NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY FOR PROCESSING AND FOR NOTIFICATION TO THE REQUESTING CONCERN. THE MINDEFENSE WOULD THEN ISSUE EXPORT CERTIFICATES VALID FOR THIRTY DAYS INCLUDING THE DAY OF ISSUANCE AND FOR ONLY ONE TRANSACTION.

4. WHEN EXPORT TRANSACTIONS WERE COMPLETED--EITHER THE FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY OR THE EXPORT HAD BEEN CANCELLED--CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WOULD RECORD ALL PERTINENT DETAILS ON THE CERTIFICATES AND RETURN THEM TO THE MINDEFENSE AS A PERMANENT RECORD.

5. THE MINDEFENSE WOULD PROVIDE THE CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION A LIST OF EXPORT CERTIFICATES GRANTED ON A MONTHLY BASIS. CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, THROUGH THE NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY AND INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE NAVY, WOULD PROVIDE THE MINDEFENSE MONTHLY WITH A LIST OF ACTUAL EXPORTS TAKING PLACE.

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